



NLM Discontinues Direct Access to ELHILL and TOXNET Command/Menu Systems on September 30, 1999

-- Toby Port, MEDLARS Management Section, NLM, Bethesda, MD

All direct public access to ELHILL and the TOXNET command/menu system will cease on September 30, 1999. All DOS, Windows and Macintosh versions of Grateful Med will cease functioning as of September 30, 1999 because they access ELHILL. NLM provides free web access to all its databases and users have been encouraged to transition to the Web for more than a year.

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DOCLINE Sunrise Seminar Medical Library Association Annual Conference May 18, 1999

Rosalyn Leiderman and Deena Acton presented the DOCLINE system that is currently under development at NLM and is expected to be available by the end of 1999. It was emphasized that the new system will retain its current functionality and provide many new features and a smoother interface. Seminar attendees were warned that all screens are still subject to change. Regardless of the release date (before or after the new year), NLM's current DOCLINE system will remain available until the new system is

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National Library of Medicine Names Associate Director

(Bethesda, Md.) —Donald A. B. Lindberg, M.D., director of the National Library of Medicine, announced that Betsy L. Humphreys has been named NLM Associate Director for Library Operations. This position oversees all public and technical pro-

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Technology Fact Sheet Tips for Buying a Computer

-- Dena Plaisted, Librarian, Delta Health Education Center, Phillips Community College of the University of Arkansas, Helena, AK

In the ever-changing world of technology it can be intimidating when you decide to purchase a new computer. There are several questions you should ask yourself before you buy.

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News From the NN/LM SCR Office

-- Renée Bougard, Associate Director

This summer is proving to be a busy one in the NN/LM SCR Office. The Coordinators are working on scheduling classes we will offer during Year 04. We have exhibited at two national conferences that were held in New Orleans: the American Library Association Conference and the American Veterinary Medical Association Conferences. Our participation in the Public Libraries Pilot Project ended on June 30 and an article on this project will be included in the next issue of *Network News*. Many of you have been concerned about the switch over of DOCLINE to a web-based interface. Information on this is included in this issue.

We are planning for the arrival of our new Consumer Health Coordinator, Marsha Sullivan, in July. Many of you already know Marsha, who was a hospital

librarian in New Orleans LA for several years. Marsha will also bring to the position a working knowledge of developing a consumer and patient library, public libraries, and special libraries. A more detailed article on Marsha will appear in the next issue of *Network News*. Look for details on our plan to implement the consumer health initiative in the SCR, in following issues of the newsletter and on the NNLMSCR-L.

We bid goodbye to Naomi Broering, Director of the NN/LM SCR and Executive Director of the Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library on July 9. She has relocated to San Diego. We appreciate Naomi's leadership over the past few years and wish her well in California. ■

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DOCLINE Sunrise Seminar

up and running. Testing for Y2K compliance is complete. Below is a summary of the seminar discussion.

NLM needs to complete the programming and testing. An implementation plan will be announced later this year. NLM will have a web page in June or July that will provide users with more information on these tentative dates and plans. The availability of the web page will be announced on DOCLINE and the regional listservs.

System Requirements

The minimum system requirements for the new systems are:

- Internet access
- 28800 modem or higher transmission
- Screen resolution of 800 x 600 or higher
- Netscape 4.5 or Internet Explore 5.0 with Javascript and cookies enabled
- Barcode font for printing the request number on receipts (optional)

All DOCLINE users must have access to the Internet to use the new system. There will be no other ser-

vice providers to the new system. Any users who do not have Internet access are encouraged to contact their RML for assistance.

ISO/ILL Protocol

NLM plans to implement the ISO/ILL protocol in the new DOCLINE. The ILL protocol provides users with the ability to exchange messages (requests) between proprietary systems. Third party software, such as QuickDOC and ClioDoc, may elect to communicate with DOCLINE through the ILL protocol. In addition, users will be able to send requests from DOCLINE to other proprietary systems that have implemented the protocol.

AT&T FTS2000 Dial Up Service

The AT&T FTS2000 service will be discontinued as of September 30, 1999. NLM will continue to have dial up service after September 30, 1999, for DOCLINE users until the new system is available. Plans for the new dial up service will be announced in the summer. The QuickDOC software will be modified to accommodate the new dial up service. Users who can transition to the Internet should do so now.

New LIBID

Currently there are two unique identifiers for a DOCLINE library, each serving a different purpose: the LIBID and the SERHOLD code. In the new system there will be only one unique identifier. The new LIBID for U.S. and Canadian libraries will consist of the US MARC Geographical Code and the SERHOLD code. The new LIBID for other countries will consist of the first two letters in the US MARC Country Code, followed by the letter "X", and the SERHOLD code.

Examples of new LIBIDs:

United States

University of Illinois at Chicago, Library of the Health Sciences

ILUILL [states abbreviation + U + SERHOLD code]

Canada

Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI)

ONCCIS [province code + C + SERHOLD code]

Other countries

BIREME-Latin American and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information, Sao Paulo, Brazil

BRXBIR [first two letters of country + X + SERHOLD code]

New Request Number

The new request number will be a sequential number up to a maximum of eight digits. It may be displayed and printed (optionally) in a barcode format on the receipt. The new request number will not begin with the borrower's SERHOLD code. Loansome Doc requests will no longer begin with LDX or LDD. The Loansome Doc request number will be retained when it is transferred to DOCLINE.

Features of the New System

The new system will allow users to submit and retrieve requests, search and update DOCUSER, search and update SERHOLD, access a list of Loansome Doc patrons, change their password, and access online help.

DOCLINE

It is envisioned that users will retrieve citations from PubMed or LOCATOR^{plus} by linking to these systems through DOCLINE. Users will be able to establish a routing profile that will eliminate the repetitive keying of interlibrary loan information that is required to complete the form.

New time-triggered actions will be implemented in the new system. Lenders will have two business days to update requests as filled or rejected.

SERHOLD

In order to convert the holdings data, NLM will freeze the current online SERHOLD system and make it view only two weeks prior to the implementation of the new DOCLINE system.

In the new system, DOCLINE participants will be able to search the entire SERHOLD database. Each library will be able to update its own holdings.

Programming for batch updating will not be completed until late 2000. At that time, NLM will accept OCLC and USMARC batch updates for libraries that are currently updating via batch and elect to continue to do so. However, all libraries are strongly urged to update online if possible to improve the currency of data available in SERHOLD.

A library will be able to print or download its own holdings, holdings for a library group of which it is a member, and holdings for its own state or province.

Users will be allowed to view holdings, update or delete the holdings for which they have update rights.

Questions and Answers

1. Where can I obtain written information on the current DOCLINE system being Y2K compliant?

This information will be available on NLM's website <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/y2k/y2k.htm>.

2. How are library groups established?

Library groups will be used to authorize SERHOLD Coordinators to update holdings for specific groups of libraries as well as allowing DOCLINE participants the ability to limit searches in SERHOLD by library groups.

Library groups consist of eleven or more related libraries that cannot be identified in any other way (e.g. All DOCLINE libraries in Maryland would not be considered a library group since a search can be limited by state).

Library groups are established by NLM in consultation with the RML. The RMLs review and approve changes and additions to library groups. These changes are then submitted to NLM. ■

DOCLINE Addendum

In response to concerns expressed at the recent MLA Annual Conference regarding the use of JavaScript and cookies, NLM has developed a test site to ensure that librarians can access the new DOCLINE system (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/docline/test>). Users are encouraged to test their browsers and upgrade the browser if needed. Additionally, NLM has established an e-mail address for comments from users (newdocline@nlm.nih.gov). ■

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NLM Discontinues Direct Access to ELHILL

Web-based Alternatives to ELHILL

ELHILL, NLM's legacy computer retrieval system, which has provided command language access for a fee for almost 30 (!) years will be closed to the public permanently. All users will need to use one of NLM's web-based search engines, PubMed (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed>) or Internet Grateful Med (<http://igm.nlm.nih.gov>) for their database searching. Currently, PubMed provides access to MEDLINE, PREMEDLINE, and publisher-supplied citations. Internet Grateful Med (IGM) provides access to MEDLINE, PREMEDLINE, and publisher-supplied citations through the PubMed retrieval system. In addition, the following databases are currently available from IGM: AIDSLINE, AIDSDRUGS, AIDSTRIALS, BIOETHICSLINE, ChemID, DIRLINE, HealthSTAR, HISTLINE, HSRPROJ, OLDMEDLINE, POPLINE, SDILINE, SPACELINE, and TOXLINE. MeSH data may be found on the MeSH browser at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/99MBrowser.html>. Data previously available in AVLINE, CATLINE, and SERLINE are now available on NLM's new Inte-

grated Library System, NLM LOCATORplus, at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/locatorplus.html>.

Automatic SDIs and Offline Prints Discontinued

Once ELHILL access is discontinued, billed User ID codes will no longer function and users will no longer be able to request offline prints or Automatic SDIs from NLM. However, users can now generate their own SDIs free-of-charge by using the SDILINE database in Internet Grateful Med. IGM currently has a stored search capability that can be used to generate SDIs; documentation on this new feature will be published shortly. NLM also expects to have a stored search feature available as part of PubMed's cubby service (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/news.html>) to replace ELHILL'S SDI function, before ELHILL is discontinued. Availability of this feature will be announced in PubMed and in this publication. Most users are already printing their search results free-of-charge in lieu of using the offline print feature.

TOXNET Billed Access Discontinued

Also on September 30, 1999 billed access to TOXNET databases will cease. TOXNET databases are now available on the web at <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>. As announced in a Technical Note (http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/techbull/nd98/nd98_technote.html#rtecs) in the November-December 1998 *NLM Technical Bulletin*, NLM discontinued free TOXNET web access to the Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances (RTECS) on November 13, 1998. This action was taken at the request of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which produces RTECS. RTECS searchers can contact NIOSH at 1-800-35-NIOSH or visit the NIOSH Web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/homepage.html>) to find information on registering for access to RTECS on other systems.

Issuing of Billed Codes Discontinued

Effective immediately, NLM will no longer issue new-billed codes and on May 1 the online registration system ceased. Existing codes will continue to work for IGM's personal journal list feature. Internet Grateful Med is developing a new version to be available in the coming weeks that will allow a user to store a personal journal list under a Loansome Doc

User ID. It is expected this change will not affect users with a current personal journal list.

Billing Information

NTIS will process and distribute final MEDLARS bills in mid-October for the July-August-September 1999 quarterly billing cycle.

Training to Use PubMed, IGM, TOXNET on the Web, and LOCATORplus

NLM appreciates its users' loyalty to ELHILL. However, the time has come to let go of this groundbreaking and incredibly durable search system and embrace the Web-based search engines that will take us into the future. Information on classes for using PubMed, IGM and TOXNET on the Web is available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online/schedule.html> and self-instructional training manuals may be downloaded from http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/web_based.html. A tutorial on using the new LOCATORplus is available at <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/tutorials/quickstart/sld001.htm>.

Please send your comments or questions to custserv@nlm.nih.gov. ■

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Technology Fact Sheet

Tips for Buying a Computer

✓ How much PC do you really need? What type of things do you want to do with your computer? It is important to think about the future, not just what you are doing currently.

- Do you need portability? Laptops are more expensive.
- Do you need a large monitor?
- Do you need a modem? If so, what speed?
- How fast does the CPU/Processor need to be?

✓ What software will you be using? Again, it is important to think about the future, not just what you are

using at this time.

- Are there programs which you would like to run but can't at this time?
- How much will be needed for future applications?
- How much RAM and hard drive is needed for current and future applications?
- Does the software require a video card and/or a sound card?

These are just a few of the things to consider before you buy. Remember, there will be a "bigger, better

and faster” computer on the market within six months so your choices now will be an important factor in protecting your investment. The first rule for buying a computer — “*buy as much computer as you can afford at the time*”. You may want to consider leasing instead of buying. Several of the major computer manufactures are now offering lease plans to simplify upgrading.

CPU or Processor - The CPU (Central Processing Unit) is the brain of the computer. The computer chips are measured in two ways: the type of processor (the name) and the speed (measured in MHz). Preferred: Pentium II 400 MHz or higher
Minimum: Pentium II 300 MHz

RAM - (Random Access Memory) - RAM is the memory utilized by the system while your system is turned on. RAM is only for the immediate use of stored information that will be purged once the computer is turned off. RAM is measured in Megabytes (MB).
Preferred: 96 MB
Minimum: 32 MB

Hard Drive - This is a computer’s primary storage. It is where you store your programs and work. Hard drives are measured by how much data can be stored. Storage is measured in Megabytes (MB) or Gigabytes (GB) with 1000MB equaling 1 GB. A good rule of thumb is to start with 500 MB and add 100 MB per program you intend to use. A megabyte contains 1,048,576 bytes.
Preferred: 12GB
Minimum: 6GB

Floppy Drive - A 3.5” 1.44 MB drive is standard.

OS (Operating System) - The operating system knows how to talk to a computer and manage the computer’s functions. Examples of various Operating Systems would be Windows95, Windows98, WindowsNT and Mac OS 8.5

Modem - A modem converts computer data into sound that can be transmitted over phone lines. Modem

speeds are measured in Kilobytes-per-second. When selecting a modem the higher the number, the faster the modem. With a 14.4 modem, you can send faxes but it would be very hard to use the Internet. Preferred: 56Kbps (V.90)

Minimum: Don’t go lower – your time is important.

CD-ROM Drive - A computer’s version of a CD player. They come in different speeds. The higher the number, the faster the information can be taken from the compact disc.
Preferred: 24-40x

Motherboard - You usually cannot specify this particular component. The important thing to check is if it will support upgrades such as a faster CPU, does it include space for a network card, etc.

Software - It is nice to have an “office suite” like Microsoft Office or Corel’s WordPerfect Suite, which includes a word processor, spreadsheet, and accounting program. You will also need a virus checker. To connect to the Internet, you will need a telecommunications program, a browser (such as Netscape or Internet Explorer), and an email package. Your Internet service provider frequently provides these programs.

Monitor - Resolution and size is important when selecting a monitor. Your selection will depend on the software you wish to utilize. Monitors measure resolution by the size of pixels. The pixel is the smallest element that creates the picture; the smaller the pixel, the higher the resolution. The recommended minimum is .28. If you’re going to spend much time on the Web, a 17” monitor is no longer a luxury. The Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI) will allow the quick movement of large amounts of data. Preferred: 17”Color SVGA, PCI video card, 4 MB Video memory

Ports - These are needed to connect peripherals to your computer, such as printers, keyboards, game controls, etc. The Universal Serial Bus (USB) is a faster multipurpose port.

Preferred: 1 keyboard, 1 mouse, 1 parallel, 2 serial, 2 USB

Sound Card - Sound cards allow your computer to communicate with your speakers to produce sound. The basic card is at least 16-bit to provide adequate sound. A 32-bit card will provide a richer fuller sound.

Preferred: Sound card with 2MB memory, speakers, headphones, microphone

Video Card - The video card allows your computer to communicate with your monitor. Some brand name computers have the video included on the motherboard. These are sold according to the amount and type of memory and as with all memory the higher the better. If using game software it is very important to check for compatibility.

Backup - Computers have been known to fail. You will want to keep a backup copy of your files and software. This can be done with floppy disks or a tape/zip drive. The cost of a tape drive is worth the investment. It will save a large amount of time and provide peace of mind.

Preferred: Tape drive/zip drive

Minimum: Floppy disks

Network Interface (NIC Card) - An adapter card that physically connects a computer to a network cable.

Preferred: 10/100 MB

Minimum: 10MB

Printers - This is a matter of personal choice and the type of work you wish to produce. Check for the speed of the printer, usually measured in the number of pages per minute, and the number of estimated pages obtained from each printer cartridge. Do you want or need color? Do you want a three-in-one

machine that will scan, print and fax? It is a good idea to check product reviews before making a final decision.

Preferred: Laser

Minimum: Ink Jet

Webliography

Terminology 101.

<http://www.sjrcomputer.com/glossary.htm>

Provides a wonderful glossary of computer terms arranged alphabetically.

Dave's Guide to Buying a Home Computer.

<http://www.css.msu.edu/PC-Guide1.cfm>

Excellent site for in-depth information on computer shopping by Dave Krauss at Michigan State University.

PC Today. <http://www.pctoday.com>

Good for product reviews, market watch, and head-to-head reviews. Free registration or you may sign-in as a guest.

PC Magazine. <http://www.zdnet.com/pcmag/>

Provides PC Lab Reviews and Editors' Choice Awards.

Computer Brand Reviews.

<http://compreviews.miningco.com/>

Their logo is "*We mine the net so you don't have to.*" Provides NetLinks to vendors and a computer review is posted daily.

ZDNet Product Guides. <http://www.zdnet.com/products/>

Provides product guides arranged by category. Includes New Products, Hot Topics, Editors' Picks and will allow you to search by category.

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National Library of Medicine Names Associate Director

cessing services at the National Library of Medicine, including the operation of the reading rooms, reference and customer services, cataloging and in-

dexing, MEDLINE and other bibliographic online databases, the *Index Medicus*, interlibrary lending, preservation, and the historical collections.

"I am especially pleased to be able to appoint someone who has spent her entire career at the National Library of Medicine," said Lindberg. "She has risen through the ranks and handled in superior fashion a succession of increasingly responsible positions." She served as Deputy Associate Director for Library Operations since 1984, and held the concurrent position of Assistant NLM Director for Health Services Research Information since 1993.

Ms. Humphreys, who came to the NLM in 1973, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Smith College and has a Masters of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland. She is a fellow of the American College of Medical Informatics and a Distinguished Member of the Academy of Health Information Professionals. Her first NLM assignments were in the serials automation and processing area and she was subsequently appointed chief of the Technical Services Division. As Deputy Associate Director of Library Operations, she chaired the NLM Preservation Task Force, which led to the establishment of a Preservation and Collection Management Section and the Library's successful campaign to increase use of acid-

free paper in the biomedical literature. Among her more recent responsibilities have been overseeing the establishment of the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology, directing the Unified Medical Language System project, and representing NLM and NIH on Federal health data standardization initiatives.

Library Operations, which Ms. Humphreys now heads, includes four divisions (Bibliographic Services Division, History of Medicine Division, Public Services Division, and Technical Services Division), the Medical Subject Headings Section, the National Network Office, and the National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology. Together, these programs account for approximately half of the National Library of Medicine's staff and intramural budget. Other responsibilities of the Library are the Extramural (grant) Programs, the Toxicology and Environmental Health Information Program, the National Center for Biotechnology Information, and the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications. ■

Additional "Partners In Information Access" Awards Announced

Seven additional "Partners In Information Access" awards totaling nearly a quarter of a million dollars were jointly announced by the National Library of Medicine and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM). Two of the awards went to NN/LM SCR members. The NN/LM SCR congratulates the Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center Library, and Texas Woman's University.

These outreach projects are part of the joint Partners in Information Access program for public health professionals which also involves the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Association of County and City Health Offi-

cials, and the Public Health Foundation. The Partners' website is at www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/partners/

The following is a brief description of the NN/LM SCR members awards.

Houston Academy of Medicine -
Texas Medical Center Library, Houston, TX
May 1999 to April 2001 (\$48,814)
Project Director: Deborah D. Halsted
Phone: 713 799-7163; Fax: 713 797-0163
E-mail: deborahh@library.tmc.edu

This is a collaborative, urban focused project with the Houston Department of Health and Human Services, the Houston Public Library, and the Harris County Public Library. The project will: 1) develop an outreach publicity campaign to acquaint public health workers with the resources of NLM and CDC;

2) conduct an outreach training program on public health information; and 3) design a special public health homepage with links to the NLM and CDC, local, state and regional sites, and locally developed information pages on public health. The target population will be selected city workers in the Fire, Health and Human Services, Public Works, and Solid Waste departments.

Texas Woman's University Libraries
Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX
May 1999 to April 2001 (\$49,990)
Project Director: Jeffrey T. Huber
Phone: 940 898-2602; Fax: 940 898-2611
E-mail: jhuber@twu.edu

State and local public health professionals in the Dallas, Denton, and Fort Worth areas will be the target

population for this project. A train-the-trainer approach will be used for individuals engaged in public health in the targeted area. Phase One will consist of visits to the Denton, Dallas, and Tarrant county health departments, a needs assessment and promotion campaign, and a web page that will provide access to CDC and NLM resources and allow users to query experts on public health information-related questions. Phase Two will consist of on-site resource demonstrations sessions using TWU's mobile computer lab and the computing labs at TWU and Texas Wesleyan University. The third phase of the project will involve small group intensive, hands-on training sessions with individuals identified during the larger resource demonstrations. ■

Document Delivery and Ariel

-- Re Mishra, Network Coordinator

As more libraries have begun to use Ariel, many others have to decide if Ariel is an option for them. Ariel is a document transmission system produced by the Research Libraries Group (RLG). More information on Ariel can be found at their website <http://www.rlg.org/ariel/index.html>. By using an RLG recommend scanner and Ariel software, documents are scanned and quickly transmitted, as an image, to other Ariel workstations via the Internet. The full version 2.2 Ariel costs \$895 when purchased from RLG, but the cost may be lower if purchased from one of their distributors. Scanners range in cost from \$400 to \$15,000.

Cost can sometimes be a factor against choosing to purchase Ariel. Luckily, there are other options. One option is a print-only Ariel package for \$189, which allows a library to receive Ariel scanned documents. With this package, the libraries will not be able to transmit documents using Ariel.

It may not be necessary to purchase any software to receive Ariel scanned documents. Since documents are electronically transmitted, they can also be sent

directly to an email account, but this requires the receiver to have MIME compliant email with enough electronic mailbox capacity and access to a TIFF viewer.

MIME stands for Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions. MIME is the current industry standard for email systems that exchange large binary data files, including graphics or other types of files that can be sent as file attachments to an email message. Since documents are sent as message attachments in a graphics file format (multi-page TIFF), the email system must support MIME. Email transmissions vary in size according to the length and graphic detail of documents. A good rule of thumb is the email system must be able to accept documents that range in size anywhere from 20K to 120K for each document page.

TIFF is a tag-based image file format that is designed to promote the interchange of digital image. Ariel scanned documents are TIFF image files. TIFF viewer software allows viewing and printing of a file even without having access to the software application that created it. A viewer may be included

with your email system software or another application or it may be a stand-alone software application. In fact, new versions of Windows 95 and NT include a TIFF viewer called Imaging. To check your computer, click on the Start button, select Programs, select Accessories, and look for "Imaging."

For those who do not have Imaging on their desktop, there are many free downloadable TIFF viewers available on the web, including Imaging. To download Imaging go to <http://www.eastmansoftware.com/products/imagingpro/instal95.htm>, and follow the instructions on that page. Another free TIFF

viewer, DocView, was developed by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). For information on DocView and how to download it go to <http://archive.nlm.nih.gov/proj/docview/project.htm>.

NLM "prefers transmitting documents through the Internet" says Cassandra Allen, Head of Collections Access Section at NLM. "It allows for faster, easier transmission" as compared to faxing documents. Libraries interested in having documents sent to them via email from NLM should call 888 346-3656 for more information. NLM is willing to test email transmission until they are working correctly. ■

Internet Connectivity Project in the NN/LM South Central Region

-- Renée Bougard, Associate Director

Recent advances in software, hardware and communications now make it possible for the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to provide new services to users. To do this, the NLM has been designated as a "Federal Reinvention Laboratory" and has engaged in what is called the System Reinvention Initiative. Under this initiative, the NLM is creating scalable new systems offering users a range of enhanced capabilities. The NLM's reinvention strategy is based on increased use of:

- the Internet and other current technologies for delivering services to users;
- commercially available software whenever possible to reduce software development and maintenance costs;
- information industry standards in the delivery of the NLM's services so that they operate smoothly with other information systems or services being used by the NLM's clients;
- surveys and other forms of user feedback to give the NLM's users greater say in the design of the services they receive.

In April 1997, the NLM conducted a survey of all members of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to assess the level of Internet connectivity. The survey indicated that a number of Network mem-

bers were either un/underconnected to the Internet. The NLM responded by making funds available through the National Network of Libraries of Medicine regional offices to assist Network members in upgrading existing connections, or implementing Internet services in unconnected institutions. Fifteen members of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, South Central Region, who indicated that they were unconnected or underconnected have been given a computer, printer, fax machine, and funding for an Internet Service Provider for one year. This will enable the libraries and institutions to access NLM products and services for its staff, physicians and patients. Network member staff at each site will be provided with training from local Resource Library, Primary Access Library or NN/LM SCR staff. Recipients of the equipment include: Medical Center, Calico Rock AR; Conway Regional Medical Center, Conway AR; Ashley County Medical Center, Crossett AR; Mercy Hospital, Waldron AR; American Legion Hospital, Crowley LA; Riverland Medical Center, Ferriday LA; Hammond Developmental Center, Hammond LA; Natchitoches Parish Hospital, Natchitoches LA; HEALTHSOUTH North Louisiana Rehabilitation Hospital, Ruston LA; Madison Parish Hospital, Tallulah LA; Choctaw Memorial Hospital, Hugo OK; Dallas Fort Worth Medical Center, Grand

Prairie TX; Woodland Heights Medical Center, Lufkin TX; and Vencor Hospital, Mansfield TX.

Seven libraries in the MED-FAX Consortium in OK received computer equipment through another funding source and were provided with Internet Service Provider funding, only. They are: Beaver County Memorial Hospital, Beaver; Cimarron Memorial Hospital, Boise City; Meadowlake Hospital, Enid;

Perry Memorial Hospital, Perry; Eastern Oklahoma Medical Center, Poteau; Newman Memorial Hospital, Shattuck; and Watonga Municipal Hospital, Watonga.

The NN/LM SCR Office will continue to monitor Internet connectivity within the region and plans to implement up to 12 new Internet connectivity projects during Year 04. ■

Request for Input on NLM Long Range Plan

NLM is updating its overall Long Range Plan in 1999, and invites your input. We solicit your comments in the following tentative areas:

- Organizing Health-Related Information and Providing Access to It
- Reaching Out to the Professional and Lay Publics
- Advancing Scientific Knowledge in Molecular Biology
- Building Health Applications for Advanced Computer and Communications Technologies
- Developing New Forms of Knowledge

Please send your comments and ideas to the follow-

ing email address: plan@nlm.nih.gov. Citations to useful background documents for the planning effort are also welcome.

Alternately, you can send comments, background documents, and any other input you would like us to have to:

Ms. Susan Buyer
Acting Chief, Office of Planning and Analysis
National Library of Medicine
Bldg. 38, Room 2S-18
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20894 ■

Congratulations to New Access Libraries

-- Mary Jackson, Outreach Coordinator

The NN/LM SCR is pleased to announce the libraries selected as Access Libraries for Year 04. Thank you for your interest in providing outreach services. We look forward to working with you. The NN/LM SCR Access Libraries for 1999/2000 are:

DHEC Phillips Community College/UA Medical Library, Helena, AR -- Dena Plaisted, Librarian.

Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation Library, New Orleans, LA -- Ethel U. Madden, Director.

Southeast Louisiana AHEC Learning Resource Center, Hammond, LA -- Laura M. Roskoski, Librarian.

Integris Baptist Medical Center, Wann Langston

Medical Library, Oklahoma City, OK -- Cheryl Suttles, Librarian. ■

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Houston, TX November 17, 1999

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Houston, TX November 15-16, 1999

For additional 1999 NOTC classes, class descriptions, and online registrations, check <http://www.nnlm.nlm.nih.gov/mar/online>.

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